

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

CHAPTER 200 – Income: Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) Categories

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AUGMENTED BENEFITS (Continued)

Example: Raymond Jones is a Medicaid recipient. He has one dependent, Robert Jones, 17, who does not reside with him. Mr. Jones' VA pension is \$450 per month, which includes a portion for Robert. The VA verified Mr. Jones' portion of the VA payment as \$400. This is the amount of VA income counted for Mr. Jones. The \$50 augmented payment is not counted.

Under the Utilization of Benefits provision, the applicant who is an absent dependent of a veteran or veteran's surviving spouse receiving VA compensation, pension or educational benefits may be required to file for an apportioned (direct) payment as a condition of eligibility unless apportionment has been denied since the dependent began living apart from the designated beneficiary.

Other Payments to Absent Dependents

Any payment made from the designated beneficiary directly to an absent dependent is unearned income in the form of a gift, a support payment, or other income, not VA income.

200.07.09E VA CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

A lump sum clothing allowance is payable in August of each year to a veteran with a service-connected disability for which a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance, including a wheelchair, is used. The allowance is intended to help defray the increased cost of clothing due to wear and tear caused by the use of such appliances. A VA clothing allowance is not income for eligibility or Medicaid Income purposes.

200.07.09F PAYMENTS TO VETERANS' CHILDREN WITH CERTAIN BIRTH DEFECTS

These VA payments are made to, or on behalf of, the natural children of veterans, regardless of age or marital status, who are in the following categories:

- Vietnam veterans' children for any disability resulting from spina bifida;
- Korea service veterans' children for any disability resulting from spina bifida;
- Women Vietnam veterans' children for certain birth defects.

These payments are excluded from income and resources. The interest earned on unspent funds is excluded effective July 2004.

NOTE: While individuals receiving these payments are children of veterans, many would not meet the SSI definition of "child". They may be applicants/recipients and/or have spouses or children who are applicants/recipients.